

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 244990

13

ORIGIN COA-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-01 OES-02 PM-03 COME-00 DODE-00

NSF-01 CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 DOTE-00

INT-05 /026 R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/MSO:RTLEROY

APPROVED BY OES/OFA/MSO:RTLEROY

ARA/CAR MR. HIGH

L/OES MR. LEITZELL

----- 014546

P 070013Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS:OCLR TPHY BF

SUBJECT:R/V EASTWARD

REF: NASSAU 1850 NASSAU 1851

1. SUBS REFTELS RELAYED TO OFFICIALS DUKE MARINE LAB. THEY UNDERSTAND VESSEL DOES NOT HAVE CLEARANCE FOR PROPOSED WORK EITHER IN BAHAMIAN WATERS OR ON GCOB SHELF. THEY HAVE ALSO BEEN CAUTIONED CONCERNING ATTITUDE BAHAMIANS TAKING ON THIS INCIDENT. THEY MAY GET TO APPRECIATE THIS FIRSTHAND, AS ERIC NELSON TO FLY TO NASSAU THIS AFTERNOON IN AN EFFORT TO RIGHT THINGS.

2. RESPONDING TO DUKE'S REQUEST AS TO WHERE VESSEL COULD SAFELY WORK, DEPT SPECIFIED CRITERIA TO INSURE EASTWARD REMAINED OUTSIDE ANY AREA WHICH COULD BE REASONABLY CONSTRUED AS UNDER BAHAMIAN JURISDICTION. IN THE AREA OF

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PAGE 02 STATE 244990

INTEREST, OFF MATANILLA SHOAL, VESSEL WOULD BE WORKING

IN WATER DEPTHS OF APPROXIMATELY 350 METERS OR DEEPER.

3. DUKE HAS NOW TOLD DEPT THAT VESSEL'S PROGRAM WAS TO INCLUDE DREDGING AT THREE SITES IN NORTHWEST AND NORTHEAST PROVIDENCE CHANNELS: 26 DEGREES 20.0 MINUTES NORTH 78 DEGREES 32.0 MINUTES WEST; 26 16.0 NORTH 78 41.0 WEST;

25 38.0 NORTH 77 13.0 WEST. DUKE TOLD THAT WHILE STATUS GCOB CLAIMS IN THESE AREAS NOT CLEAR, POLITICALLY SPEAKING IT WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION TO CONDUCT THIS TYPE OF WORK GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. POST MAY PASS SUBSTANCE ABOVE TO GCOB. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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